RADIO-PERCEPTION

THE JOURNAL OF THE
BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

Vol. VI No. 50 DECEMBER, 1945

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Price to Non-Members, 1/6

BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

COUNCIL

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Hon. Secretary and Treasurer :

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Major C. A. POGSON, M.C. — Captain W. H. TRINDER
O. F. PARKER, A.R.S.M., M.A., F.S.A. — G. UNDERWOOD

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

(*a*) To encourage the study of all matters connected with the perception of radiation by the human organism with or without an instrument.

(*b*) To spread information amongst members, by means of a journal, lectures and other means, about the use of dowsing for geophysical, medical and agricultural and other purposes and for tracing objects animate or inanimate.

(*c*) To keep a register of dowsers for water, minerals, oil, and for other purposes.

RULES OF THE SOCIETY

I.—Membership.

The Society is open to all persons interested in radiation-perception.

The Council has power to appoint honorary members.

II.—Entrance Fee and Subscription.

(*a*) The entrance fee for permanent residents in Great Britain is 10/6, and the annual subscription is 10/-.

(*b*) The entrance fee for permanent residents overseas is 10/6, and the annual subscription 5/-.

The subscriptions under (*a*) and (*b*) may be compounded for by the payment of a Life Member's subscription of six guineas or of three guineas respectively.

The Council is empowered to decide any special cases in connection with the payment of subscriptions.

III.—Management.

The Society will be managed by a Council consisting of a President, who will act as Chairman, and five members, one of whom will act as Treasurer and Secretary.

The President and members will be replaced as necessary by the Council, appointments being confirmed at a General Meeting.

All questions regarding the publication of the journal, lectures, meetings, allocations of funds to promote the objects and interests of the Society, will be settled by the Council.

Decisions of the Council will be arrived at by correspondence if necessary, the facts being recorded in the Minute Book.

Decisions will be decided by a majority vote, the Chairman having a casting vote.

The Council has power to co-opt other members for special purposes.

IV.— Accounts.

The financial year will be from July 1st to June 30th.

Audited accounts will be published annually within two months after the end of the financial year.

V.—General Meeting.

A General Meeting will be held annually, and other meetings when considered necessary by the Council.

JOURNAL OF THE
BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

Vol. VI No. 50 December, 1945

NOTICES

The draft of the new code of Rules which was circulated to members in 1939 has been revised by the Council and a copy is being sent out with this Journal.

It is proposed to consider these Rules at a Special General Meeting to be held next year.

Any amendments should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, together with the names of the proposer and seconder, both of whom would have to be represented at the meeting.

* * * * *

The Editor would be obliged if anyone who has a copy of *The Physics of the Divining Rod*, *The Modern Dowser*, *Water Diviners and their Methods*, to dispose of would communicate with him.

* * * * *

A member wishes to obtain Vol. I of the *B.S.D. Journal*, or any early numbers. Would anyone who has copies to dispose of kindly inform the Editor.

* * * * *

A Title Page and Contents for Vol. V have been printed, and will be supplied by the Editor on application.

* * * * *

Radiesthesia II and Dr. Richards' *Medical Dowsing* can be obtained from Dr. W. Guyon Richards, 9 Fordington Road, Highgate, N.6, at 3/6 and 1/1, post free, respectively, or 4/6 if ordered together.

* * * * *

All copies of *Dowsing*, by Captain W. H. Trinder, have now been sold.

The Editor would be glad to hear from anyone who has a copy to dispose of.

* * * * *

The price of *Journals* to non-members is 1/6.

The price of new *Journals* to members, in excess of the free number, and of old *Journals*, is 1/- and 9d. respectively.

Six free copies of the *Journal* will be given, on request, to writers of articles in it, in addition to the usual copy.

A member of the Society, Mr. J. Oulton, P.O. Box 257, Nairobi, Kenya, would be glad to hear from any dowser who has an artificial limb. He finds his own powers are not affected by the loss of one leg below the knee.

* * * * *

The following Divining Rods can be obtained from Mr. Guy Underwood, Belcombe House, Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts :—

OASIS Pocket Divining Rod (in case), 10/-.
Ditto, larger " Supersensitive " Type, 21/-.
ROTOGAUGE Estimating Rod, 12/6,
also
Reprints of four articles and a lecture on Dowsing published in the B.S.D. Journal, price 6/- the set.

All post free, cash with order, and subject to a discount of 20 per cent. (4/- in the pound) to members of the B.S.D.

* * * * *

Whalebone strips, cut to the following dimensions, can be obtained from Messrs. Devine and Co. Ltd., St. Stephen's Road, Old Ford, London, E.3, at the price of 5/- per rod (2 strips).

Flat : 12in. long x 7 mm. wide x 2mm. or 3mm. thick.
Circular : 12in. long x 3mm. or 4mm. in diameter.
Square : 12in. long x 3mm. or 4mm. square section.

Rods made of strips of these sizes have been tested by a number of dowsers, and are recommended by the B.S.D. Investigation Committee.

Spherical whale-ivory pendulums can also be supplied at 8/- each. Prices for rods and pendulums prepared to specific dimensions are given on request.

All prices are post free in U.K.

* * * * *

The Society's badges can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary. Owing to the increased cost of postage, the price in now 1/3 post free.

* * * * *

Communications for the Editor, and inquiries, should be sent to Colonel A. H. Bell, Portugal Street, London, W.C.2.

NEW MEMBERS

* Life Members

AINGER, Mrs. E., 5 Caroline Terrace, S.W.1.
ALTON-NAGEL, F., 59 Lowther Road, Barnes, S.W.13.
ARMSTRONG, C. B., P.O. Box 536, Lourenço Marques, P.E.A.
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CARLSON, F., Hyatt's Road, Plumpton, Sydney, N.S.W.
COLLIE, Miss N. E. W., Sweethaws, Heathfield, Sussex.
DAVY, C., Boundary House, Bramshott Chase, Hindhead.
DOWDING, Air Chief Marshal Lord, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., C.M.G., 3, St. Mary's Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.
GOOD, Mrs. N., Private Bag, Homeleigh Halt, East London, Cape Province, S. Africa.
HARVEY, R. V., F.H.D., Cumberland House, Linktop, Malvern, Worcester-
LAMBERT, Mrs., Westwood, Camberley. [shire.
LEON, T., 243 E. Lincoln Street, Hillsboro, Oregon, U.S.A.
MILLEN, MRS. NORAH, c/o The Eastern Bank Ltd., 2 & 3 Crosby Square, E.C.2.
*OULTON, J., P.O. Box 237, Nairobi, Kenya Colony.
SCHMITZ, J. M., P.O. Box 106, Pilgrims Rest, Eastern Transvaal, S. Africa.
THOMAS, L. C. J., Hastings House, St. Michael 18, Barbados, B.W.I.
TRANTER, Mrs., W.V.S./503/U.K., Women's Services A.L.F.S.E.A., Attached S.E.A. Base, Post Office S.E.A.C.
VENABLES, G. D., D.O., M.S.O., 4 Wyndham Place, Bayswater Square, W.1.

OMITTED FROM SEPTEMBER LIST

ABBOTT, C. C., M.I.B.Th., 56 Railway Road, Leigh, Lancs.
COWARD, Lieut.-Colonel R. E., 8 Montagu Mews North, Montagu Square,
COX, A. J. M., British Military Mission, c/o B.A.O.R., Denmark. [W.1.
CUDDON, E., c/o Coutts & Co. Ltd., 440 Strand, W.C.2.
GOODALL, A. M., Downland Farm, Uckfield, Sussex.

CHANGED ADDRESS, &c.

*BARNES, Mrs. F. STANTON, Gratwicke, Angmering, Sussex.
BIGGS, Mrs., 12 Randolph Road, W.9.
*BLACKWELL, Lieut.-Commander P. F. B., R.N., Little Borland, Gatehouse-of-Fleet, Castle Douglas, Kircudbrightshire.
DE CASTRO, Miss M. B., c/o National Provincial Bank, Winton Branch, Bournemouth.
CHILD, Lady, Ambassador's Court, St. James Palace, S.W.1.
*CLEATHER, G. GORDON, c/o Lloyd's Bank, 37 Chowringhee, Calcutta.
DANDRIDGE, Miss T. F., The Moorings, Wellington Parade, Walmer, Kent.
FITZHERBERT BRICKDALE, Mrs., Conway Cottage, Kowie West, Port Alfred, Cape Province, S. Africa.
HALL, Mrs. K., Pentire, 175 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham, Reading.
HAMILTON, C. F., Flat 17, 88 Portland Place, W.1.
LAMB, W. H., Lilleshall House, Port Hill, Shrewsbury.
LANGTON-LOCKTON, N. L., Teeton Hall, near Northampton.
LEA-WILSON, REV. H. W., 16 Albany Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.
PENROSE, Miss E. M., c/o Bank of Adelaide, George Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
REID, E. F., 8 Hanover Terrace Mews, Regents Park, N.W.1.
RESIDE, S. WILSON, Margaret Square, Newry, N. Ireland.
*ROSS, E. F., Scotsburn, Rowledge, Farnham, Surrey.
*ROBINSON, G. L., Hurchington, Bexhill, Sussex.
*SNOWDON, Major H. A., R.E., Retreat, Windsor Road, Ramsey, Isle of Man.
SWAINSON, Miss D., 30 Bramham Gardens, S.W.5.
*TRINDER, Captain W. H., Job's Mill, Crockerton, Warminster, Wilts.
WINER, A. L., D.Sc., 22 Canewdon Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.
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RESIGNED

BRUTON, H. G.
FROST, Miss I. R.
LOMBARD, Rev. B. S., O.B.E.
MALAN, Colonel L. N., O.B.E.

OBITUARY

BELL, Miss C. H.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1945

The Eleventh Annual General Meeting was held at the rooms of the Royal Asiatic Society, 74 Grosvenor Street, at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 24th October.

Members present were: Colonel A. H. Bell (Chairman), Mrs. Ainger, Mr. Alton-Nagel, Mr. Staveley Bulford, Miss Cameron, Mrs. Clemetson, Miss Collie, Mr. Eeman, Rev. Purefoy FitzGerald, Mrs. Glanville, Colonel Gibbon, Dr. Guyon Richards, Mr. Hamilton, Mrs. Hone, Miss Knight, Mrs. Lambert, Mr. W. H. Lamb, Miss Leather, Mr. Graham Mutter, Mrs. Nightingale, Mr. O. F. Parker, Mr. J. C. Primmer, Major Pogson, Mrs. Raven, Mr. E. F. Ross, Mr. Stockel, Mrs. Sands, Miss Warner, Miss Weeks, Mr. F. R. Woodward and Lieut.-Colonel H. M. Edwards (Hon. Secretary).

2. The Minutes of the 1944 Meeting were taken as read, a full report of the proceedings having been published in the *Journal* of December, 1944.

3. Colonel Bell read the following Report:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thanks to the atomic bomb, the perplexities of peace have replaced the worries of war rather earlier than was expected a year ago, and we can now ask ourselves how the Society stands.

As regards members, the latest complete list of members which appeared in the September *Journal*, shows exactly 500, of whom 105 are life members. The corresponding list, published in September, 1939, showed, curiously enough, exactly 600 members, of whom 77 were life members, so it seems that the war has cost us 100 members.

Then, as regards finance, our records show that on June 30th, 1939, our balance was £238 14s. 4d., whereas it was £500 1s. on the same date in the present year, so that our resources have more than doubled. This increase is, no doubt, partly due to the revised rates of subscription which were introduced on July 1st, 1944, but it is none the less satisfactory.

Now I want to say a word about the new code of rules, which was drawn up in 1939 but, owing to the war, was not laid before a General Meeting for approval. These rules have recently been revised by the Council and certain alterations made. They do not allow for any change in the present rates of subscription, but they lay down in greater detail than at present the procedure to be followed in carrying out the objects for which the Society was founded, and they provide at the same time for a larger Council and for a regular change in its members.

It is proposed to have these Rules printed, as soon as convenient, for circulation to members and subsequent consideration at a Special General Meeting.

One of the most pressing needs of the Society is the acquisition of a paid Assistant Secretary, to carry out the drudgery which the running of a Society necessarily entails, such as typing,

addressing envelopes and so on. Hitherto, as you know, all such clerical work has been carried out by Colonel Edwards and myself with the kind assistance of my business Secretary, but the Council decided at a meeting on February 14th that it was time the Society had a paid Secretary of its own and that one should be engaged as soon as the war was over.

In my Report last year I was perhaps too sanguine of the effects of our increased income. Most of it will have to go towards the payment of this Assistant Secretary; nevertheless, there will still be a residue available for carrying out the objects of the Society, such as the payment of lecturers, though it will not be possible to go in for any large developments unless they be of a contributory nature.

During the war the activities of the Society were necessarily curtailed. There have been very few lectures, and no open-air meetings in the summer. We are now, however, arranging for several lectures during the winter months, and I hope it will be possible to hold an open-air meeting next summer as we did before the war. Perhaps one of our members who has a large garden or estate would be kind enough to throw it open to the Society for that purpose.

As you all know, Mr. Maby has, in spite of obvious difficulties and the many claims on his time, been steadily carrying on his work of investigation throughout the war; and I should like to take this opportunity of saying how extremely fortunate we are in having someone of his breadth of mind, scientific knowledge and wonderful ingenuity in the construction of instruments, ready to devote most of his energies to the advancement of the Society's objects.

Many members have been good enough to recount their observations in the pages of the *Journal*, but few of them possess the necessary knowledge of physics or biology to enable them to correlate their observations with the well-proven fundamentals of these sciences. Hence it is that we are given theories to account for well-attested phenomena, which presuppose the existence of a variety of waves, rays, vibrations and what not, without any attempt at explaining their real nature and the source of their energy. It would be a good thing if every dowser, before he attempted to formulate theories, should read a few books on elementary physics, chemistry and electricity, so that he might be in a position to know whether he is talking sense or the exact opposite.

The September *Journal* contained Mr. Maby's annual Progress Report on behalf of the Investigation Committee, and it is therefore unnecessary for me to enlarge on it. I would, however, like to draw your attention to his exhaustive experiments with the electro-radiometer, which were further described in an article by him in the same *Journal*. I hope that before long it will be

possible to purchase models of a perfected instrument in which all the usual criticisms have been anticipated. Members will then be able to see for themselves the effects of the hitherto unregarded forces which cause the revolutions, sometimes in one direction, sometimes in the other, of a light cylindrical object on a practically frictionless bearing.

As regards the financial portion of this Progress Report, I must draw your attention to the fact that the Society is in no way responsible for the Research Fund or for the loan advanced to Mr. Maby by his bank. As, however, practically all the expenditure on this fund is in the Society's interests, there is a decided moral obligation on the Society and its members to support the fund in so far as they are able.

To this end the Council, in accordance with its powers conferred by Rule III, decided, at a meeting on July 11th, to make the Research Fund a grant of £50, which expenditure will appear in next year's accounts.

The *Journal* has been carried on as before, but owing to the exhaustion of the stock of blue paper, the cover now has to be white. Perhaps some members will think this an improvement.

As Editor, I wish to thank all who have been kind enough to contribute articles during the past year, viz., Mrs. Andrewes, M. Charles Belletrux, Mr. Benham, Mr. Austin Browne, Mr. Cook, Mr. Maby, Dr. Munro and Mr. Underwood. We also owe our thanks to Dr. Gonin, whose lecture at the last General Meeting was printed in the *Journal*, and to Lord Dowding for his very interesting lecture on his experiments with the radiometer, a note of which was also inserted in the *Journal*.

I hope members who have anything of interest to communicate will always make a point of sending me information, either in the form of an article or in a letter.

Dowsing, or rather Radiesthesia, seems to be coming to the fore again on the Continent.

As I think you know, the French Association des Amis de la Radiesthésie is no longer in existence; but one of our members, an officer of the Canadian Army, made the acquaintance of two eminent dowsers when he was serving in Italy, namely, Don Donato Castelli, of Florence, a priest-scientist, and Dr. Silvio Giuseppi Mercati, Professor of Byzantine Art at the University of Rome and President of a Society for Radiesthesia at that place. I am trying to get in touch with him with a view to exchanging *Journals*.

I have had correspondence with M. Georges Discry, a well-known Belgian Radiesthesist, who was President of the Executive Committee of the Congress at Liége in 1939. He has started an institute for treatment by radiesthetic methods near Liége.

Further, I have had a letter from Brussels stating that a *Revue Internationale de Radiesthésie* is to be published, and asking

BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

Financial Statement: Year ended 30th June, 1945.

RECEIPTS.

1943-44. £ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Brought in—		
	Cash at Bank ..	107 14 8	
	Defence Bonds ..	220 0 0	
266 1 1			327 14 8
134 18 4	Annual Subscriptions		178 4 7
38 17 0	Life Ditto		109 15 0
10 6	Entrance Fees		15 4 0
6 19 10	Sales of *Journal*		5 13 2
1 2 0	Sales of Badges		13 3
3 2 0	Donations		1 7 0
6 12 0	Interest on Defence Bonds ..		7 9 7
£458 2 9			£646 1 3

PAYMENTS.

1943-44. £ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
21 7 2	Postages and Cheque Books ..		31 9 2
81 1 1	Printing of *Journal*		93 7 7
21 0 4	Printing and Stationery		7 7 0
3 17 6	Meetings		13 15 0
—	Bank Charge		1 6
3 2 0	Donations		—
	Balance, 30th June, 1945—		
	Cash in hand and at Bank	80 1 0	
	Defence Bonds ..	420 0 0	
327 14 8			500 1 0
£458 2 9			£646 1 3

H. M. EDWARDS, *Hon. Treasurer.*

I have examined the above Receipts and Payments Account with the Books and Vouchers and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

A. CECIL STOUGHTON.

28th August, 1945.

for our collaboration.

Now I come to the accounts, copies of which have been circulated.

You will see that we started with a balance of £327 14s. 8d., and have ended our year with a balance of £500 1s.

I do not think that the accounts call for any special remarks except on the item of £109 15s. for life subscribers, as compared with £38 17s. 6d. on the same head in the previous year.

Actually, there were 96 life members at the end of the previous year, as against 105 in the September list, so the increase only amounts to nine.

Our thanks are again due to Mr. Cecil Stoughton for auditing our accounts without a fee.

4. The appointment to the Council of Mr. G. Underwood, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation, owing to ill-health, of Dr. W. G. Richards, was confirmed on the motion of Captain H. W. Trinder, seconded by Mr. O. F. Parker.

5. The adoption of the Accounts, proposed by Mr. F. R. Woodward, and seconded by Rev. H. P. FitzGerald, was approved.

6. A vote of thanks to the Honorary Auditor, Mr. Cecil Stoughton, proposed by Lieut.-Colonel Edwards, and seconded by Mr. E. F. Ross, was carried.

7. A vote of thanks to the Chairman for his address to the Meeting and for his labours as President since the inception of the Society, was carried by acclamation.

After the meeting, Mrs. Barraclough gave an address on "Pendulum Principles and some Experiences," which is printed below.

PART ONE

WATER.—SOME EXPERIENCES AND SUGGESTIONS

By J. R. PARKINGTON, A.M.Brit.I.R.E., A.M.I.E.E., (B.S.D.)

Part I

When one's mind has to travel back to events happening during a period approaching half a century, one is always faced with the problem of where to begin and how to put first things first. In this article, therefore, I will endeavour in my narration to start from the beginning, leaving it to the Editor to use the blue pencil at his discretion, and allowing to get into print only what he considers to be worth reading.

At a very early age I became interested in *water*, and, among other things, constructed a water-wheel from two syrup tins and sundry pieces of tin, wire, &c. This water-wheel actually revolved, much to my delight and wetting, and possibly my mother's best pair of scissors were ruined by the process of cutting up the tin, but I cannot recall any great reprimand in consequence. This was no doubt due to my mother's own great personal interest in her own father's occupation, as she never seemed to tire of telling me stories of his many exploits in connection with water-mills, &c., before steam power became much used. These stories stimulated my boyish imagination greatly, and it may be worthy of note that when I visited the little village of Sproughton (near Ipswich) not so very long ago, it was to discover that the grand old water-powered mill was still grinding the golden corn, and much of the original mill gear functioning much as it was after my grandfather fixed it, probably over a hundred years ago. Myself a grandfather now, it is no great surprise to find that my daughter's little son will leave any toy to play with water. By some mysterious means he recently succeeded in unscrewing a water-tap from its socket, and not only soaked himself thoroughly trying to put it back, but drenched me as well when I came on the scene to help him. These predominating tendencies and characteristics passing from generation to generation on the *female* side might be more noteworthy if they were not fairly common. In passing, I may mention that I have on several occasions successfully dowsed out from among a number of children those who were the offspring of a certain mother, but only once have I been sufficiently satisfied with my diagnosis to be able to proclaim to the other parent " You're the father." Maybe it is just as well. In the identification of human blood-stains on an absorbent such as cloth, blotting paper, &c., I have had no conspicuous success if these were exposed to the air beyond three or four days, after which I obtained no reaction with the pendulum. Possibly I would have been more successful had I sealed the samples in some way from the action of the air, as

no doubt coagulation and, finally, decomposition mitigated against getting a more satisfactory result.

But harking back to earlier days, I could include quite a chapter on my boyhood experiments with water, pipes, syphons, pumps and what-not, not omitting mention of some electrical devices; but to do so would make this article too long. Suffice it to say that I sometimes progressed wetter than better, and became definitely more shocking as my electrical knowledge increased. In the end, at an age well in my teens, my father apprenticed me to an old-established engineering firm in Leicester, which, among other devices, manufactured electrical water-level indicators. In the fixing of these at various parts of the country I came into close contact with several interesting water schemes.

About the year 1902 I became associated with a Swansea firm, and among other "hydraulics" carried out some electrical pumping schemes for collieries. The water encountered in the Welsh coalfields is a very serious problem, and I think my worst experience was a breakdown which kept me underground for three days with practically no sleep. But the lower end of the workings was saved from a "drown-out," and about 200 colliers were enabled to continue their work. Need I add that when I did return to daylight, enshrouded with grime and glory, I finished most of the week in much-needed sleep. One matter which had many times passed through my mind regarding the many conversations I had with mining engineers and colliery managers, was to discover that none of these seemed to have the slightest knowledge of dowsing. Yet, I have been told that as much as £100,000 has at times been sunk; the coal reached; but the water has beaten the engineers to the extent that the cost of keeping the workings clear rendered the output uneconomic.

Coal occurs in seams or beds situate sometimes one above another, with a layer of rock between. In a given area, naturally, the top seam (assuming good thickness and quality) is for economic reasons worked out first. Then a second ("lower measure") may be worked by carrying the shaft farther down and driving more or less horizontal "headings" according to the run of the coal—something on the lines of adits from a well-shaft.

As in a well or bore, the trick is to keep the top water back, but in the case of a colliery the "trick" may prove to be not only a dangerous but a costly operation. Apart from the risk of water "break-through" some time or another, if the top working has been closed or abandoned for some time and has to be pumped out, subsidence may sooner or later occur if the props or other supports are allowed to become rotten. This actually happened some years ago at Weig Fawr Colliery, near Swansea, resulting in severe damage to Cockett tunnel, through which runs the G.W.R. main line to Carmarthen and beyond. A costly and protracted lawsuit followed between the colliery

proprietors and the G.W.R. Co., which the former partly won due to the fact that the G.W.R. had only the " surface rights " and had not purchased the " mineral rights " of the land over which their main line runs.

At another colliery in the same district during sinking operations, an event took place of so unusual a nature as to be worth recording. Some thousands of pounds had been expended on excavation, but no seam of coal had been struck, in spite of the fact that the manager was an experienced and able man. The latter was getting ill with worry, as things were looking very bad. Shareholders got wind of the position, so special meetings of the Directors were called, as something had to be done. A " second opinion " was therefore brought in, and inspections made and other details looked into. This latter issued his verdict in the pronouncement " Yes, the coal is there all right, but you've gone *underneath* it." Frank amazement or open incredulity came from the Board, but finally they were persuaded to " carry on " a little longer. From the heading already excavated, a cutting in an *upward* direction was made for a short distance and —well—there was the coal. Perseverance was thus rewarded, and a fortune retrieved, as it turned out to be a splendid seam of coal. What seems to have happened was that the shaft had been sunk through a " fault " in the strata and clean missed the coal. I feel tolerably certain that " second opinion " must have had some knowledge of dowsing. Anyway, it seems to be a fact that " geological survey " by itself stumbled rather badly in this instance.

Apart from the worries due to water, ventilation and subsidence, the mining engineer has in some districts to deal with what is known in colliery jargon as " the squeeze." Broadly speaking, this geological phenomenon is due to the after-movement of *both* rock layers from between which the coal has been extracted. When the stresses set up increase, shearing and disintegration of the underside of the top layer of rock may suddenly occur, resulting in " a fall." I narrowly missed losing my life on one occasion. Fortunately, some warning is usually given by the rock giving out a " rap " sound at intervals, also by the pit props bending or " kneeing," this being regarded as being due to the enormous weight above.

But is it *weight alone* which gives rise to these tremendous strains ? Personally, I very much doubt it. I have more than an inkling when I suggest that hydrostatic (water) pressure has a good deal to do with the action. Astonishing as it may appear (but seemingly true), in a number of collieries I visited there was evidence that the roof not only tended to descend, but that the floor definitely *rose up*, as excavation proceeded. In at least one instance I can recall, this was visible to the eye, and amounted to some inches in a few days. In this particularly

bad place, although pit-props of 9in. or over diameter were planted at fairly frequent intervals, even these " kneed " and collapsed in a comparatively short time unless additional support was given by " dry-walling " with slabs of rock. In the absence of more convincing evidence, I am thus driven to the conclusion that water (under *pressure*) was largely the culprit in these cases.

In the years which I spent among these collieries, and the steel and tinplate works which have made South Wales famous, much more than I have written could be recounted. As I have been asked to write an article and not a book, I will close this phase by relating one curious experience in what was first supposed to be due to water but turned out to be fire.

The electrification of a tinplate works at Morriston (near Swansea) was proceeding, and the power-house was nearing completion, when ominous cracks appeared near one quoin of the building. It was a substantially built brick-work structure, and there were no disused colliery workings below to account for the subsidence at one point, which daily increased to an alarming extent. It became so bad that to prevent utter collapse of a substantial portion of the building temporary steel propping and bracing had to be resorted to, but with little success. Finally, a pit alongside was carefully excavated to ascertain the cause, and before a depth of 6ft. had been reached, the crowbars used by the workmen became too hot to handle. To prevent caving in, the sides of this trench were well timbered up, and the works fire engine pumped tons of water into what was now regarded as " something burning." The water quenched the latter for a few days, and it was thought that the " fire " was out, but not so—it recommenced. In the end, a large pit had to be excavated and the material therefrom carted away and tipped. The pit was then filled in with well-rammed broken stone and rubble upon which a " raft " of cement concrete level with the original foundations was laid. The under-pinned portion of the structure was rebuilt, and the trouble ended. Could it have been due to the combustion (in the ordinary sense) of the boiler clinker and ashes which were removed; if so, how did the necessary air reach some feet below the surface? Whatever the exact cause, the facts seem to indicate that building on any " made " ground having any considerable ashes content has at least some considerable hazards.

It was about the year 1908 that I forsook the industrial area of South Wales, with its forbidding ash and slag tips, and went to live in that lovely country west of Carmarthen, which has been rightly described by many as " the Garden of Wales." On a previous business visit to " Alltcavan," near Llandyssul—a spot which for sheer beauty the artists Constable or Gainsborough would have revelled in—I had lit electrically what has been claimed to be the first woollen mill so lighted in West Wales, power

being obtained for the purpose from a water turbine. Mr. Ben Jones, the then proprietor of the mill, was one of the most genial yet business-like Welshmen I have ever met, and his passing some years ago was a great loss to the locality.

In September, 1909, the little market town of Newcastle-Emlyn received the light from an electrical power-house which I had designed, fitted with hydraulic turbines, water being drawn from above an existing weir across the river Teify to provide the necessary " head."

If I may be allowed to digress here somewhat, it is to say that for some reason this scheme provoked some ridicule through the press and by the local public—until it worked. Elderly Welsh people were prone to shake their heads, and some even regarded me with obvious disapproval. " How could water make fire in a bootel ? " (bottle), they argued—referring to what we now commonly describe as an electric light bulb. But it did, and when the streets shone as never before, one could hear " Well, well " on every side. Ultimately, these good people grew to like the " bootels " so much that about 95 per cent. of all establishments have now been connected up to the mains.

Although by no means my most important effort (Fishguard coming later), this job gained me considerable notoriety as a water engineer. Thereafter, over a long period, I was called in to advise upon all sorts of schemes involving water—from the design of a device to rapidly fill water carts to the power-driving and lighting of some largish mills and factories over a wide area. Domestic and other water supplies came into the bag, and had to be dealt with, thus was I literally compelled to get my hand in with dowsing, or else risk becoming a " back number " in my profession. Briefly, with me dowsing had to be made to work—and pay. It is now 30 years or more since I became interested, but I must confess that in the early days the " sifting of the corn from the chaff " was not an easy matter. In this connection, I will venture one illustration. I had read, and heard, much about diviners with their hazel twigs—always *hazel*, and almost came to the conclusion that this wood had something of the same desire for water that leeches had for human blood. Or could it be some sort of " plant sense " such as geraniums exhibited when they turn toward the light from a window ? Again, cut flowers were sustained by the simple act of placing their lower ends in water.

Deliberating in my mind the why and wherefor of this every-day phenomena, the logical conclusion was arrived at that a freshly-cut twig when supported in a certain way might reasonably be expected to turn *of its own accord* towards underground water while life remained in it. In my hands it actually appeared to do so, until I got my first shock by finding the rod turned *upwards* when tracing the course of an underground stream

towards its source. Final disillusionment came quite suddenly on a job where my hazel twig split at the fork, and I had to try (much doubting) another of different wood cut from the nearest hedgerow.

It worked, so (later) did a portion of overgrown cabbage plant, followed by a piece of bent wire and all sorts of " Heath Robinson " designs of rod. My last " improvise " was a rod made from a couple of composite knitting needles held together near the points by an elastic rubber band.

This was used to demonstrate before an Institution of Electrical Engineers meeting when a member (Mr. Shipley) and I " crossed swords " in a debate on the subject of water divining having an electrical basis.

To furnish details of all of the many water supply schemes which I have been identified with might prove tedious reading, as the broad facts were similar in most cases, such as those for estates and the larger farms. There are, however, in connection with fissure springs a few points with regard to " lay-out " which may prove helpful to my readers. Having divined what appears to be the best underground stream within reasonable distance of the premises, and satisfied oneself as to quality and quantity by methods already set forth in a former article,* follow its course in *both* directions. Since, within a reasonable area, such streams more often than not flow in the same direction, you may (*a*) find another or better flow ; (*b*) reach an elevation sufficient to enable a " gravitational " supply being given (*dispensing* with pumping) ; (*c*) find the best point to attack, *i.e.*, clear of domestic or cattle pollution ; (*d*) discover a " delta " or " nest " of springs, or a number sufficiently near to be all turned into the same collecting chamber. But when dowsing in such circumstances, beware of " parallels " where flows are seemingly close to one another,as by doing so much blasting of both sorts may be avoided. In any but a flat stretch of country it is possible you may find (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) will occur somewhere on the side of a hill, but with appreciable undulations in the surface contour in the direction of the premises. Make sure that a " bee-line " of piping would not cross any hillocks of approximately the same elevation as your collecting chamber, otherwise you may have trouble with air-lock(s) in your supply line. It is better to skirt high mounts wherever possible, and at all substantial " dips " fit Ts with wash-out arrangements to enable any sediment to be cleared.

Roughly speaking, if a gravitational supply can be obtained from a point within three-quarters of a mile or so from the premises, this is infinitely preferable and compares favourably in cost with that of sinking a well and fixing a nearby pump. I am quite aware that some water engineers may differ from me here, but

* *B.S.D.J.*, V, 35, 3

I could agree with these to this extent, that in cases where troublesome way-leaves, " other premises supply," difficult excavation, or spiteful landlords come into the picture, these must be taken into account in the scheme to be finally adopted. Assuming, therefore, that a gravitational supply has been decided upon, and the supply pipe has been well and truly laid, there is yet one more " snag " which may be encountered during times of drought. This may happen at some period of the day when more water is being drawn from the collecting chamber than is flowing in.

Should the chamber be too *small* it may empty, together with the pipe-line also by syphonic action, resulting for a time in no supply coming through.

In a properly designed pipe-line the supply should recommence after awhile, but should it fail to do so, it may need the attention of an intelligent plumber armed with a suitable pump to dispose of air-locks.

There are devices to prevent this nuisance, but for domestic supplies the soundest plan is to provide a collecting chamber large enough to contain two to three times the estimated maximum daily consumption. For the larger schemes, reservoirs in addition are generally found to be expedient or necessary.

Should a supply from a well or wells be decided upon, it is far better to employ a reputable firm for this work than a man who *thinks* he knows how. Even greater caution is needed in the case of a bore into (or through) rock. Of this branch of engineering, suitable books are available for study by those interested. The writer, therefore, does not propose to say more here than to warn those who need a well to be *completely* satisfied that the lining and construction is such that no surface or polluted water can possibly find its way in. In these days of labour diffculty and shortage and delays, you may be compelled to take your chance regarding whom you employ for your well. An incautious sinker reaching the spring may be tempted to put a shot or two underneath to make the sump necessary for capacity and sedimentation. He (and you) may be lucky and get your wish, but you may also find that that last shot or two have lost you your spring for ever, and there is often little for it but to start another well.

Beware of using any great length of lead piping for the suction and delivery of your pump *unless* you are satisfied beyond the least possible doubt that your water has negligible (if any) chemical action on this metal. Not far from where I write, a whole family was literally " wiped out " by lead-poisoning through neglect of this precaution. Hand-pumping is an irksome and tiring business, and the possibility of using a surface stream to operate an hydraulic ram or turbine-driven pump should not be overlooked. Failing this, electric or some other motive power should be considered.

Of the interesting process of wresting from nature water-power which has run waste for centuries I can only make brief mention.

Schemes of this kind require most careful survey of site, water-flow, " head " (fall), seasonal variations and other factors before a sound decision can be arrived at. A good " splash " of water may be highly illusory with regard to the amount of power available expressed in horse-power, and although I have investigated a fairly large number of sites, I doubt if I could claim more than 50 per cent. as having got beyond the blue-print stage.

For reasons other than engineering, several promising propositions have been abandoned owing to conflict of, or vested interests, excessive initial cost, and other causes. Still, it is astonishing what can be accomplished in the way of utilizing quite small streams by skilful engineering, especially in conjunction with electrical storage where an electric lighting scheme is required, and in this field I can claim quite a fair number of successes.

From what I have written about the bug-bear of water in collieries, it seems quite clear that water is not always to be regarded as the friend of man, or even a blessing, quite apart from such obvious instances as coast erosion and damage to property by rough seas and tidal surges. I therefore feel justified in stressing the potential danger and damage to structures and buildings in certain circumstances due to underground water flows. Not only in South Wales, but in many parts of the British Isles there exist beds of rock at no great depth from the surface. Many of these beds being of sedimentary origin and almost impervious, are but thinly covered with a layer of clayey soil which in proximity to underground weeps and flows become saturated at certain seasons of the year, and developing into " mud streams " or local bogs. These mud streams tend to move in the direction of the water flows, or may even lift to some extent where the rock fissures and water emerges. As the result of this action—it may occur even on a plot no larger than that for a couple of houses—parts of the surface remain fairly solid (viz., the *un*saturated) while the rest may become wholly or seasonally bogged and wobble about in a most uncertain manner. The ordinary trenched-out foundation for a house on such a site is at best a gamble, and if possible the spot should be either specially drained or abandoned. Some 20 or more years ago I was consulted by a retired sea captain who had secured about an acre of land at a lovely spot near the Welsh coast with a view to building a residence. After I had surveyed the site I strongly advised him to " raft " his foundation, extending same horizontally well beyond the outer walls so as to form a clean path round the house. I also urged that the bungalow (one storey) type of house be chosen so as to distribute the weight of the structure more evenly over the " raft " or solid slab of cement concrete forming the foundation. This he did, and in passing I may mention that wood block flooring was laid on this raft inside the

house at a cost little in excess of trenched foundations and ordinary joist flooring. Some months ago I carefully inspected this house and if it has moved at all it has not disintegrated, but moved *all together*. Certainly no cracks due to water or abnormal settlement have yet appeared, and need I suggest but for a proper preliminary survey helped by dowsing you might have read another story. As a contrast to this I recently viewed a couple of semi-detached villas built about the same time of which the whole gable end of one had fallen down. I located by dowsing at least three more or less parallel water flows under the structure, and these in my view caused this block to sink progressively several inches towards the end which collapsed. In support of this could be plainly seen the " sheared " arches of the doorways and windows of the frontage—always the drop towards the end which collapsed. I should not be surprised if these two villas will need entire re-building within the next 25 years, unfortunately at at least double the original cost.

(*To be continued*)

EARTH RADIATIONS AND THEIR EFFECT ON HEALTH

By A. A. COOK

Samples token of the soil, from different areas, generally give both positive and negative polarity, but odd ones give polarity only—no waves. The soil on the surface of the earth appears to vary as much in wave lengths, their frequency and polarity, as do the individuals, and everything else, which exist upon it. Some things, such as underground streams, and ashes, have both wave lengths and both polarities. The only other things, the writer knows of, that have both waves and polarities, are rain water, caught in a glass vessel as it falls and before it reaches the earth, and the waves that pass through a radial operator's body—both hands and both feet.

Anyone developing or subject to such ailments as neuritis, sciatica, asthma, rheumatism, continual colds, sleeping badly, or feeling continually " out of sorts," are generally living over earth radiations which are not in harmony with their particular wave length and frequency. The most common cause of trouble to the human body from earth radiations is that which emanates from underground streams, but the body is also affected by other underground matter, such as minerals (coal, shale, oil, iron, copper, &c.) and heavy bands of clay. Anyone of these do not affect all people in the same way. For instance, one person could live over a particular underground stream or area of land and experience no ill effects from it, where another, living over the same stream or area, would soon find his health was suffering from their radiations. In some cases the process is slow, but, in time, the radiations undermine the bodily resistance to disease of

those with whom they do not agree. It is apparent that the wave length and frequency of one human body will " tune in " to the wave lengths and frequency of one stream or area, but another body with that stream or area is in absolute disharmony. In the former case, the individual keeps in general good health and quickly recovers from any ailment he may contract, where the latter is always " off colour " and easily acquires any infection that may be " going the rounds," and recovers slowly from it. The doctor who is fortunate enough to have his patient on an area which is in harmony with that patient's wave and frequency, is going to have better results from his treatment of that patient than from the one he treats where the radiations are in disharmony.

From the evidence given by radial operators in different countries, and from what the writer has observed, it would appear that cancer may begin from quite simple causes, under adverse radial conditions. The writer has lately examined the dwelling of one who has passed over through this disease. The bed upon which he slept for the past twenty years is right over a strongly radiating underground stream. We occasionally hear of houses which get the unenviable names of " cancer houses " because of the number of their inmates who, at different periods, have developed this dire disease. Every fact that can be gleaned points to the cause being that these houses are built over areas in which run strongly radiating underground streams, heavy bands of clay, or other matter, whose powerful radiations cause the irritating (to some bodies) conditions, which, in time, turn a comparatively simple ailment into a malignant one. The radial detector will show which of these things are under the earth in these areas, and testing samples of the inhabitants of the dwellings, with a sample of the earth on which they are built, those who are in disharmony with the radiations from the earth are indicated, and they would be the ones who would suffer from these harmful emanations.

Two methods are recommended to " short " effectively all radiations from the earth. First, lay wires or light iron rods at not more than three feet apart—the wires or rods running parallel with each other—along the top of the earth, or fastened under the floor, under the position of the bed it is wished to free from these radiations. A room or a dwelling can be treated in the same way. Second—which needs more care in adjusting—is to cover the floor with a single piece (no joins) of linoleum, laid on a paper base, and place the bed upon it. Any furniture or mats must be wholly on the linoleum or wholly off it, on the floor. It must be understood that these preventive methods are not put forward as " cure alls," but they have been proved of great benefit to humanity in assisting to keep it free from the ailments enumerated in this article. Should the radial detector be used only for finding these adverse radiations, its use would be more than justified.

*OILFIELDS IN GREAT BRITAIN

BY DR. G. M. LEES, ANGLO-IRANIAN OIL CO. LTD.

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In *Nature* on March 31st, 1934, an article on " Petroleum in Great Britain " gave the following conclusion on the prospects :

" Oil pools of commercial magnitude (*pace* natural gas, shale oil and allied indications and potentialities) cannot reasonably be anticipated in any known area in Great Britain. Many years of official geological survey—a centenary in 1935 in point of fact—together with much independent work, leave few spots unknown, if not in detail, at least in sufficient outline to preclude even faint hope."

On December 6th, 1944, G. M. Lees and A. H. Taitt read a paper to the Geological Society of London on " The Geological Results of the Search for Oilfields in Great Britain," and the President of the Society, Professor W. G. Fearnsides, on opening the discussion, said that " Never before had so much exact and new information about the underground geology of Britain been presented to the Society. . . . The D'Arcy Exploration Company's [the exploration subsidiary of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co.] delivery of some 300,000 tons of native oil had been a notable contribution to the war effort, but the by-product of knowledge gained of Carboniferous rocks, under and about the edges of the coalfields, was not less vital in the interests of the nation."

The pessimistic, though confident, opinion of 1934 was presumably written without a full appreciation of the capacity of the modern technique of geophysics and of rapid exploration drilling to probe the structural and stratigraphical secrets below the unconformable cover of Permian and Mesozoic strata. This blanket completely obscures the older rocks throughout extensive areas in the Eastern Midlands, East Anglia and south-central England, and such borings as had penetrated below the unconformity were too few and too scattered to allow any satisfying deductions to be drawn from their results. These areas were, therefore, virtually *terra incognita* at depths below a few thousand feet, or less, from surface.

The exploration programme of the D'Arcy Exploration Company has extended over a number of separate and unrelated geological prospects—the Mesozoic in Southern England, the Carboniferous in the western and eastern Midlands, the Permian in North Yorkshire and the Calciferous Sandstone Series in Scotland. During the course of the past ten years, intensive geological and geophysical work and the drilling of fifty-two deep and forty-three shallow exploration borings by the Company

* Published in *Nature* by permission of the Chairman, Sir William Fraser, and the Directors of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., Ltd.

have yielded an immense amount of new information. They have proved five oilfields and two areas of natural gas, and these fields are now producing from 243 wells. The total production up to the end of 1944 was 337,000 tons. The crude oil is of good quality, with good light and lubricating oil fractions. The specific gravity ranges from 0.83 to 0.89.

The oilfields are situated about eight miles north-west of Newark at Eakring, Duke's Wood, Caunton and Kelham Hills, and there is one isolated small field at Formby, between Liverpool and Southport. The Nottinghamshire oilfields produce from depths of 1,900-2,500ft. from sandstones in the Millstone Grit Series and, to a lesser extent, from sandstones in the basal part of the Coal Measures. The oil is concentrated in the crestal parts of minor anticlines forming part of a major anticlinal area which extends from the Trent at Rolleston to the vicinity of Ollerton. The Formby oilfield is a small accumulation in Keuper Waterstones sealed upwards by Glacial clay, and in this case the oil is produced from a depth of 100-120ft. The structure is a faulted monocline, but it is thought probable that the oil has migrated upwards from a lower source, perhaps in the Carboniferous. Two deep borings have been made to explore the lower possibilities, but so far without result.

The gas fields are at Aislaby in Eskdale, North Yorkshire, and at Cousland near Dalkeith, Scotland. In the former case the reservoir rock is a Permian limestone, and in the latter it is the sandstones of the Oil Shale Group of the Calciferous Sandstone Series. Short tests have indicated that the gas may be present in sufficient quantities to justify commercial exploitation.

The discovery of the Nottinghamshire oilfields resulted from geophysical work carried out, for the most part, by the staff of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. Seismic refraction arc surveys have proved to be the most successful method, whereas the reflexion method has given disappointing results. Gravity and magnetometer methods have also been used. These geophysical surveys have revealed the presence of a number of structural highs in extensive areas in eastern Nottinghamshire and in Lincolnshire, and a number of these have already been tested by drilling ; although the ratio of success to failure has been low, the search continues.

An immense amount of new geological information on the stratigraphy and structure of the Carboniferous rocks below the Permian unconformity has been revealed by these borings. Coal seams of significant thickness have been penetrated by borings at Spital, Dunston and Stixwould, north, south and south-east respectively of Lincoln City. The coal seams lie at about 4,000ft. depth, and although for this reason they are not likely to be mined in the near future, they represent a substantial addition to the known British reserves of coal. It is possible that coal

seams at shallower depth may be present underground in the surroundings of the Wash or even in North Norfolk; the former possibility was already envisaged by Professor Kendall many years ago. On the debit side of the coal account, the area north of Newark, both east and west of the River Trent, has been proved to lack coal seams of important thickness, while to the south of Newark there is a considerable area in which there is an exceptional development of volcanic rocks within the Coal Measures, at the expense of workable seams. Farther south, however, there is an improvement, as a boring at Widmerpool, eight miles south-east of Nottingham, has proved two good seams.

Another important by-product of the search for oil has been the discovery of potash salts of Permian age in Eskdale, North Yorkshire. Both sylvite and polyhalite are present, and this result shows that the potash deposits of the Zechstein Sea, which have such economic importance in north-west Germany, extend also into north-eastern England. The potash beds in Eskdale are at a depth of 3,650-4,775ft. and, while this may exceed easy mining depth, there is a possibility that the deposits may extend farther north towards the Tees valley and rise to a lesser depth.

Inevitably, after several decades of rural spoliation by uncontrolled industry, a certain apprehension has been felt lest the development of oilfields might be at the expense of the amenities of the countryside of Britain, but it need not and has not been so. Every care has been taken to cause as little disturbance as possible; after a well has been drilled, the derrick is removed and only a small pumping jack marks the position of the boring. Electric power is used for pumping, and the motors are both small and silent. Buried pipelines carry the oil from the fields to a railway siding, whence it is transported in tank cars to a refinery.

PART TWO

PENDULUM PRINCIPLES AND SOME EXPERIENCES

Address given to the British Society of Dowsers on October 24th, 1945

By GLADYS BARRACLOUGH

It is possible to play at Dowsing a long time before recognising the significance of the factors which give it reality. We are in our early days, not a whit concerned with technique, or worried by the fact that, having put a finger, as it were, on a little understood natural law, we are faced with the responsibility of utilising it, and keeping in line with the physics which makes such a demonstration fully significant.

Most of us will acknowledge that the thrill of the very first lift of the rod or gyration of the pendulum was coloured in part by the admiration of our audience. Being bombarded by radiations from surrounding matter is common to everyone, to be able to demonstrate the fact is not necessarily a magical quality in us; nor does it warrant a belief in personal powers that will act the same way under all conditions. However, we are convinced that the sensitivity of the human body as a receiver is established beyond question, but we must, as a group, be prepared to sift and clarify, clarify and sift, so as to formulate a technique at which no future physicist can look askance.

I hope in future years dowsing types will be officially classified, as I am sure individual variations account for many puzzling factors, which must come under consideration as well as basic principles.

I hope, also, advice in technique will be pooled and available to the novice, who faces a real difficulty in finding a simple sequence of exercises by which to prove his dowsing ability, without landing himself in a maze of physics at the start. Unfortunately, there are few books and many—very many—methods. This is a drawback to the student, but in the present experimental stage of Radio-perception so many avenues have not been fully explored, it is therefore inevitable that fundamental laws are overlaid by diversity of approach, creating a certain amount of confusion.

To the dowsing enthusiast, I would say experiment all the time; never accept any statement without testing it yourself in any and every way. If you are convinced we have outgrown the idea of magic, but that natural laws control the faculty of Radio-perception, never be content to get a result in any field without trying what a change of orientation would give, for the Polar law is a dominant one and always with us.

It is very easy to be so occupied with the particular tools we use that we forget the human body is the most important tool of all, and the most sensitive, provided we do not blanket ourselves by failing to suspend voluntary muscular control. It is certainly vitally important to study the physics of dowsing so as to ensure stable results. Polarity is a basic law, and we cannot study it too closely; my sympathy lies with the novice, for not all the dowsing books stress the importance of orientation, and one is apt to mix up one's physics.

I wish now to draw your attention to a simple exercise taken from page 44 of *The Modern Dowser*, by Henry de France, a book most dowsers are familiar with, and have a great respect for. It is practical and concise, perhaps sometimes too much so, and occasionally succeeds in leaving the enthusiastic student with a bad and quite unjustifiable inferiority complex.

On page 44 there is exercise 7, called " The Balance." I quote: " Place on a level surface, such as the ground or a table, two lamps at least one metre apart. If they are of the same power, the pendulum which has started gyrating over one of these lamps will, if it is moved, oscillate at the point half-way between the two lamps." If the observant student refers back to page 33 he will find: " Finally place yourself as far as possible in a position facing West; this advice was passed on to us, and we know it to be good." Therefore, if he reads this he can correctly demonstrate the exercise.

However, no mention is made of the fact that *only* facing West will one get gyration over the torches and oscillation over the mid-point. Facing North, South or East the action is reversed, gyration being at mid-point and oscillation over the two torches. The chances of a novice facing West the first time of trying this is very slender indeed, if he has missed the warning on page 33. He is more likely to sigh and probably say " Alas! I cannot be a dowser," little witting he was a very good dowser indeed not to be influenced by the suggested result in the book. To carry Exercise 7 a little further, let us give some attention to our pendulum. Those of you who have read Mr. Macbeth's *Pendulum Play* will notice he stresses that everything is bi-polar. Everything has its North and South pole, be it a door, a walking stick, a football, or a pendulum. To test the polarity of any given pendulum, you will find you get, of course, gyration clockwise opposite one end if you hold it in your fingers, and test with another pendulum; that will be the South or positive end. The North or negative end will give an anti-clock gyration. To demonstrate this I have run a silver chain through my pendulum, so it is possible to reverse it and swing it with one end or the other down. I consider we can class a pendulum as a positively balanced working tool or a negatively balanced one, and they should be adjusted in use according to the polar field we face.

A dowser should also classify his own polarity by putting his left hand on his head above the ear first one side then the other. The right side and left hand are of similar polarity, and the left side and right hand. Most males have positive right hands and negative lefts. The opposite, of course, appears generally in women. In left-handed people this is again reversed, the left-handed male having a negative right hand, &c. It is possible that I was born left-handed and it has been trained out or that nature juggles with her laws, for, though a woman, I have a positive right hand and negative left. However, a bar magnet held between the fingers over the pendulum (in the same hand) which is gyrating anti-clockwise over my left hand, will let the gyration continue *provided the magnet is held North polar end down*. If the magnet is reversed and the South polar end down, my pendulum immediately becomes static—showing that I belong to the negative, feminine, or North polar group. The reverse, of course, happens over a man's left hand.

It seems simple enough, but this has taken me many months of experiment to clarify. I have bought ivory beads, crystal beads, and was once given by my daughter an attractive necklace made of wooden beads, each one a sample of wood from our Colonies. It was the answer to a dowser's prayer. I promptly cut it up to make pendulums, to her great indignation. One's family has not a great opinion of dowsers, the general feeling being that we fuss a great deal over nothing! But from that necklace I learnt that variation in wood was not as important as polarity. Yet I am still experimenting with various substances for pendulums.

The opinion that the shape of the pendulum affects the result has been held by many dowsers. In the catalogue of the Maison Radiesthésie of Paris there are no fewer than 13 designs, most of them by famous dowsers and physicists, but there does not seem to be any general agreement as to the underlying principle. If we consider the heavenly bodies, they are spherical and demonstrate gyration and a certain stability. I do not think one can better the Earth's shape for a pendulum, but one that is not rightly polarised for the technique employed will blanket some results and catch you out when you least expect it. The world will not crash if one occasionally gets an incorrect answer, if one plays with a pendulum, it is merely disconcerting. However, in health matters correct diagnostic answers are imperative, and incorrect results eventually gather a storm about one's head—and rightly so. It is the duty, surely, of every serious-minded dowser to experiment, so that they are able to gain certainty in their results, and put dowsing on a firm footing before the world.

I have been asked questions on orientation relating to map dowsing. I have done a fair amount of this fascinating work, which, however, is in a class by itself. I can only say that my

best result, obtained at a test set by the B.S.D. some years ago, was done when I orientated myself most carefully according to the bit of map given, and which we had to complete in the blank spaces. How much of the success was due to orientation and how much to other factors is difficult to assess without many more tests.

In field dowsing, such as water finding or prospecting for oil and metals, orientation takes, I believe, second place. The position of the sun being most important in some techniques; in others the rays from the objective are most important.

However, in desk dowsing or where the measurements are in a small range, orientation is a law worth considering. For me facing North gives the highest percentage of results. To measure death from a blood spot I must be orientated North; the pendulum then oscillates due North-South, and slowly deviates to the left, till it assumes an East-West beat, after a few swings it becomes static. This pattern occurs for nothing else, and does not take place if I face any of the other points of the compass. I do not find this holds good for all other operators. A lady friend of mine has to face South to get a similar indication for death.

Can an operator work if not in balanced health? I consider the answer is "yes," if the polarity of the brain is not disturbed. Most sensitive dowsers are weather sensitives—with them the bile of the liver fluctuates from a thick to a thin consistency; therefore, if the weather is humid and laden with moisture they feel sluggish and not well, the liver processes are slowed. But a cold, dry snap will produce a headache, even giddiness; possibly the liver shrinks slightly and the bile gets more liquid. I have arrived at a system of following the weather changes with two of the Biochemic Remedies Kali Mur. (Chloride of Potash) for sudden changes of mild and heavy weather and Natrum Sulph. (Sulphate of Soda) for the sudden cold, dry snaps, both in Homœopathic potency and no longer suffer the discomfort of a weather sensitive. However, even if "under the weather," I find it makes no difference whatever to my dowsing ability, as evidently it does not affect the polarity of my brain.

Fourteen years of dowsing has led me through many and various stages. Sins of omission and sins of commission I have been guilty of. I have many times been caught out by the very points on which I am now sounding a warning note. But humility and tireless experiment can, I believe, lead us out of pitfalls, and open our eyes, as Mr. Maby points out, to the difference between faith and works.

[Bar magnets, 2 inches long, 1 inch wide, or larger, can be obtained from Messrs. Griffin and Tatlock, Kemble Street, W.C.2. —EDITOR.]

CANCER AND ITS CURE

BY GEORGES DISCRY

I will not attempt to define the nature and origin of the disease, but will leave this to the heads of the medical world with their well-equipped laboratories. In this article, I will merely draw attention to the value of certain plants in withstanding and healing this terrible affliction.

After many years of research, I have been able to prove experimentally that cancer takes root in soil favourable to its development, selecting for this purpose the most defective organ. Numerous experiments on mice have proved this hypothesis beyond the shadow of a doubt.

It is needless to recall that radiesthesia can disclose a pre-cancerous condition which ordinary diagnosis could not possibly reveal. This being so, I ransacked nature for plants which were in harmony with organic cells, that is to say, would make them vibrate to the same tune. For cancerous diseases the following plants are of this kind :—Sabina, barley condurango, viburnum, thuya, lycopod, calendula, hydrastis, equisetum. Each case has to be treated individually and the syntonising material suitably selected.

Homœopathic mixtures have been proved to be more efficacious than allopathic extracts, and results have been remarkable. It would not do, however, to be too triumphant at present. The preparation of extracts has to be taken into account ; the so-called hermetic method is far superior to others, but is attended by certain difficulties which I have not the space to explain here. I will say only that this method involves the distillation of all the substances contained in the plant, for in this way important curative values may be secured.

I will quote some results obtained by my method, but it may be necessary to wait several years for the final verdict :—

The case of Madame S. (described below).

The case of Monsieur H.

The case of Monsieur H.B.

The case of Commissioner M.

It is a very curious thing that a cancerous patient after a syntonised treatment ceases to suffer, even if there be no cure, and dies peacefully and without pain.

I am convinced that if a syntonised treatment be used in good time (for in the above cases the disease was in its final stage) results would be most striking. Syntonisation is only possible by radiesthesia, which goes straight to the source, avoiding the uncertainties of remedial measures. I work in collaboration with certain doctors who apply to me for assistance, whilst sending me a sample of blood.

I will be glad to receive suggestions from readers, for we should all unite in our efforts against this scourge.

THE CASE OF MADAME S., AT KINKEMPOIS (LIÉGE).

On July 18th, 1942, this patient sent for Dr. Jean André. The hereditary and personal antecedents of this lady presented no peculiarities, and she put the outbreak of the disease about a week before.

She complained of severe pains in the left hypochondrium ; she was vague about the symptoms and there was no radiation of the pain. A clinical examination showed her general state to be excellent, a well-compensated mitral incompetence, blood pressure 150/90. On examining the surface of the abdomen, a voluminous mass was found to have distended the left side of the abdomen, by its bulk displacing the umbilicus towards the right side. On palpitation, a resistant tumour was felt, slightly painful, extending to the left anterior costal margin, and beyond the median line by two or three finger breadths. On vaginal examination, a large swelling was felt in the left fornix and in the posterior fornix. I made a diagnosis of a twisted ovarian cyst. All the same, the clinical picture was not typical, and I delayed two days for developments, but as there was no change I called in a surgeon, Dr. Lekeux Edgard. His diagnosis being the same as mine, we decided on a laparotomy on July 21st, 1942.

On opening the abdomen, we found a gelatinous tumour, from the friable wall of which there was escaping everywhere a substance comparable in every way to meat jelly, flooding the field of operation. In trying to free the cyst we saw that it had contracted adhesions almost everywhere in the left iliac fossa, and it was impossible to remove it. The examination of the urine gave us a shock, for the whole of the omentum was invaded by metastatic nodules varying in size from a pea to a pigeon's egg, and the diagnosis of ovarian cyst secondarily infected with cancer was only then made.

After a long and difficult operation, we joined the margins of the cavity of the cyst to the abdominal wall. The sequel to the operation was a high temperature and infection of the wound, a worsening of the general condition, loss of appetite and of weight. Finally, on September 21st, 1942, the patient left the hospital in a deplorable state, the wound in the abdomen was almost healed, but a lump the size of a baby's head could still be felt in the left iliac fossa.

For six weeks the patient passed her time at home on a couch or in bed, her appetite became progressively worse, and the temperature varied between 99.5 and 100.4, stools were frequent and loose, and uninterrupted colicky abdominal pains required the use of opiates.

On November 2nd, 1942, the patient entered the Hospital de Bavière to undergo a cure by deep X-rays. On December 21st she returned home worse than when she left, and I received

a letter from the radiotherapist to the following effect: "The X-rays have unfortunately had no effect on the cancer." From that date the patient did not leave her bed, her general state got worse and worse, her complexion yellow, her appetite nil, her body emaciated; loose stools (five to six in 25 hours) brought on painful colics, her blood pressure, which had fallen to 80/60, was so bad that I warned the family (April 15th, 1943) of her imminent death.

At this point the patient asked me if I would consent to her calling in a radiesthesist. I willingly consented, and the latter, finding that the patient's bed was standing over a source of harmful waves, had it moved. Several days later the patient asked me if I saw any harm in consulting M. Discry; I was strongly in favour of her doing so, and sent a sample of blood to M. Discry, who diagnosed the case as cancer of the ovary with metastases in the intestines with intestinal stenosis; the treatment recommended was syntonised G.D. 48.

From that day I have not once used opiates for the patient's attacks of colics, which became less frequent, as did the stools; and three or four days after the start of the treatment there was no further pain. Already I considered the result satisfactory, for the appetite and strength gradually improved to such an extent that at the end of a month of the radiesthetic treatment, the patient got up and took several steps in her room.

In June, 1943, two months after the start of the treatment, the patient remained up the whole day, her appetite had become normal, her colour had returned and she was slowly putting on weight.

In December, 1943, the patient had increased in weight by from 40 to 50 pounds since April 25th, the date on which M. Discry had been consulted; her appetite was quite good, stools had become normal, there was no pain, and blood pressure had become 130/80.

The abdominal lesion and the large tumour could still be felt and had not changed in size, *but the latter had not progressed as might have been expected;* the patient continued to take her G.D. No. 48. She attended to all her occupations without help, and in October undertook a journey by train to Namur without suffering the least fatigue.

In conclusion, I can only say that it is certain that in this case of cancer of the ovary and of the intestines in its final stage, I witnessed a véritable resurrection of the patient, starting from the moment when she began to take the syntonised G.D. No. 48 prescribed by Monsieur G. Discry.

Angleur, Liége. Docteur JEAN ANDRÉ

PERSONALITY IN PHOTOGRAPHS

By Major T. MURARI. B.Sc. (Oxon.). F.L.S., F.R.S.A., A.I.R.O.

In my first communication to the *Journal* I mentioned that it is possible to state from photographs with a pendulum the sex of the person, and whether the person was dead or alive. Recently I was forced to study the subject once more under tragic circumstances. My wife fell seriously ill early this year and, unfortunately, succumbed to the disease. During her illness, which lasted for about two-and-a-half months, I was under great strain, because I was anxious about her life. At the early stages of the illness I had her at home and attended to nursing her. At first the patient had an abortion, later she got ill with rheumatism and fever. The doctors at first diagnosed it for sandfly fever, then enteric, later septicæmia and puerperal effusion. At this stage she was admitted into the British Military Hospital. The specialist, who is a very able man, stated that the disease, whatever it was, had badly affected the heart. He did his best in trying to save her life. When she did not respond to M & B 693, she was put on penicillin for about three weeks. All the diseases were under control except the state of the heart. Respiration and pulse rate were high. At times they appeared to improve, but in the end, at a time when the patient thought that she was nearly well, her heart collapsed and she passed away.

At the early stages of her illness various medicines were administered to the patient. As long as she was at home I was able to test the medicines with my pendulum to see if they suited the patient. Most of them did not agree. Once or twice medicines for rheumatism seemed to be agreeable.

As soon as the patient was removed to the hospital, I had no facilities to test in her presence. Each night I worked on her photograph with the pendulum to see if she was keeping up her vitality. It was evident from the rapid rotation that she was holding on.

Towards the end edema had increased alarmingly and no medicine administered to her had good effect on her. At home I tested one of the Ayurvedic* medicines with the photograph, and it showed that it was very markedly suitable. As no bad effect was expected, this was given in very tiny quantities, and to our satisfaction the edema which had taken alarming proportions subsided completely.

It was unfortunate that the heart could not be strengthened, despite the best of allopathic treatment. In view of the difficulty in diagnosis, because all examinations for various diseases —sputum, blood, urine and fæces, gave negative results, had dowsing been better organised from the point of view of medicine, it is just possible that my wife's life would have been saved.

* Ayur-Veda is the book of the Hindu science of health and medicine.

Immediately after my wife's death at the hospital, I hurried back home to break the news to my children and the parents of my wife. Soon after, I tested my wife's photograph to see if her personality existed in the photograph. I made several tests, and at each the result showed that the personality had departed from the photograph, though the naked eye could not detect any change in the photograph. The pendulum always became too heavy and did not move.

At various intervals I have studied the photographs with similar results. But the curious finding at present is that, while the photographs show the subject is no more, her writings still give indications for sex and personality. I hope to continue the tests to find out when her personality in her letters would cease to exist.

Incidentally, after the fall of Berlin, I tested a photograph of Hitler. Though all the reports say he is dead, my indications show that he is still alive, but what I am not sure is, whether the photograph I studied is of *the* Hitler or one of his several doubles.

NOTES AND NEWS

Dr. Dudley Wright has kindly sent us the following note about that veteran dowser, Mr. J. J. Morton, of Cape Town (see article by him in *B.S.D.J.*, III, 20, p. 159):

I first met Mr. Morton about two years ago; since then I have had several opportunities of seeing his dowsing work, not only in the field, but also taking part in some experiments in his garden on certain minerals which he believes have a destructive action on plants, shrubs and trees.

First, as regards his water divining. The point which strikes me most is the simple nature of his procedure. His usual method is to use a rod made from the fork of a quince tree—these trees are abundant at the Cape—and, with this held behind his back, he walks over the ground until the turning of the fork indicates the presence of water. He then tests the direction of the flow by making a circular turn of the body with the rod pointed, until it responds by turning down. This gives the direction of the source of the spring. He will now test the number of gallons of water per hour by the number of down turns of the rod whilst facing up-stream; each turn represents 100 gallons of water per hour. He then tests for the depth of the spring. To do this he walks some yards away at right angles to the course of the stream, and then slowly approaches it until the rod turns down again, which indicates the border of the stream. Each turn down here of the rod he reckons is seven feet in depth, but, to allow for errors, he adds one in five to the total.

A special gift of his is the power of dispensing with the rod and using his hands alone. To do this he joins his hands together in front of his chest in the attitude of prayer, as one sees in mediæval pictures. His reaction to the radiations is shown by the sharp movement downwards of the hands at the wrists.

Impermeable rock over a stream is shown by the hands not moving downwards more than once over the stream when gauging the flow immediately over the water course.

Mr. Morton has made an extensive study of certain minerals which he has found and which give a similar reaction to water, except that they do not respond to flow and depth tests. These occur in lines about 6in. below the surface about 6in. to 8in. apart, and consist of small masses, like pebbles, of a brownish yellow colour about the size of, or smaller than, a melon seed. If they are close to the roots of a shrub they impair its growth and eventually kill it. There is no doubt that they give off some radiations, for if one digs up the soil where indication of their presence is given by the rod, one can immediately tell when they have been removed by the absence of indications, and in testing the soil removed the reaction occurs over it.

This soil can then be spread out in a thin layer and the small stone can easily be detected, though it cannot usually be seen

owing to its colour being very similar to the surrounding soil. It can usually be found by searching with the fingers.

Some specimens were sent to the Geological Survey Office in Pretoria, and the report said that the pebbles consisted of "marcasite (iron sulphide), iron oxide and quartz, and do not contain any radio-active or magnetic minerals."

In spite of this, dowsers will not be surprised at the fact that they give off radiations of some sort, and I certainly had no difficulty in finding them both in situ, and in the earth dug up by Mr. Morton.

One interesting observation of Mr. Morton's I cannot forbear to mention. He found that if he placed some of these pebbles in a pail of water and left them there for a day or so, this water, given regularly to trees or shrubs made sickly by their presence, would slowly recover. He showed me some that had been treated in this way; whereas others not so treated had died. If this is a fact, it is a remarkable illustration of the homœopathic law.

* * * * *

An interesting letter has been received from Miss E. M. Penrose in which she describes the valuable assistance she has been giving to sheep-farmers in the great drought in New South Wales by finding small flows of water.

* * * * *

In an article entitled "Scent in Insects," by C. N. Buzzard, in *Country Life* of July 13th, reference is made to the experiments carried out by Henri Fabre with moths and butterflies, which showed the attractive power of the female for the male. In one type of experiment the male was attracted from a distance *against* a strong wind showing that odour, consisting of an emanation of molecules, could not have been the cause. On the other hand a female enclosed in a hermetically sealed vessel failed to attract any male. When a female was moved suddenly from one place to another in the same room males visited the vacated spot.

* * * * *

According to the *Evening Standard* of July 21st and the *People* of July 22nd, Police Constable Terry, of Sutton Coldfield, was responsible for finding the body of one of two six-year-old boys who had disappeared from their homes. After a vain search by the police in a deep quarry pool at Stockingford, Nuneaton, Terry, an amateur water diviner, was sent for. He indicated a spot where the bodies might be found, and dragging of this section of the pool resulted in the discovery of one of them.

* * * * *

The *Birmingham Mail* of July 26th mentions an interesting discussion on scientific lines of water divining as providing an entertaining chapter in *Water Drainage and the Community* (Dent 3/6), by Rolt Hammond. Judging by certain extracts, the author is by no means up to date in his information.

Mr. R. Walpole (B.S.D.), of Wellington, New Zealand, has sent us an obituary notice, from a newspaper, of Mr. John Mosley, J.P. Born in 1854, he started the practice of water divining in 1907, and later devoted himself, most effectually, to the diagnosis of disease in plants and animals and the finding of suitable remedies by means of a system of his own.

* * * * *

A member writes from India: "I have used the 'written sample' persistently, and believe in it more firmly than ever. One use has been to locate persons at a distance. An instance—a son-in-law was wounded in Libya late in '41. With the 'written sample' I located him at Ismailia, three to four months later in S. Africa, and again, after the lapse of several weeks, in England. The two first cases were confirmed subsequently by letters from my daughter in England, and the third by a cable from her saying 'he arrived late on Thursday evening.'"

* * * * *

Another member writes from India, having recently returned there: "I have been very interested to find that a number of places out here, which I located for wells over 13 years ago, have yielded good water. Since arriving over two months ago, I have already made several more locations. I find that the 'projection theory' I described in the *Journal** some years ago has given fairly accurate results as regards depth. Last week I tested a bore of 120 feet near here, made at a place where two diviners had shown water, and estimated one stream at 200 feet and another crossing it at 375 feet. No wonder no water had been struck!"

* * * * *

In *Answers* of August 25th there was an article about Mr. J. H. Bennett (B.S.D.), of Longford, Eire. He successfully makes use of dowsing on maps both for tracing missing people and for locating water supplies. It is stated that for this latter work the Federation of Builders, Contractors and Allied Employers of Ireland have recently paid special tribute to his ability in their official "Bulletin."

* * * * *

Mr. George (B.S.D.), of Auckland, New Zealand, has sent us an extract from the August number of the New Zealand *Mirror*, containing an article by Mr. R. Livingstone on the "Mystery of the Divining Rod." A dowser himself, he states that during the last few years he has made numerous locations for the Public Works Department, and during the last twelve months at least a dozen for various military camps. In the article he refers to a Rev. Mason, who about 35 years ago was in great demand as a water diviner, and located water in hundreds of localities.

* See *B.S.D.J.*, II, 10, 119.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Biophysical Laboratory,
Bourton-on-the Hill,
Moreton-in-Marsh,
Glos.
July 22nd, 1945

Dear Colonel Edwards,

Many thanks for your letter and cheque for £50 (fifty pounds), dated July 19th, being a grant towards the research expenses of this Laboratory by the B.S.D. Council—for which I enclose a formal receipt. And I should be grateful if you would kindly pass this letter to Colonel Bell and the Council. Possibly it could be printed in the next *Journal*?

I need hardly say that I greatly appreciate this generous gesture by the Society, and I shall, of course, continue to make every exertion, as in the past, in order to foster and propagate this work in relation to Dowsing and Radiesthesia. And the present grant will help to cover the cost of development of the new *radio-electrometer* (see article on same in forthcoming *Journal*) which promises to provide a more tangible demonstration of the dowsing force than anything else hitherto.

This instrument is already more or less complete, in one of several alternative forms, for laboratory and physiological use; and a second model is already nearing completion for outdoor (field) use in relation to running water, &c., to which it definitely responds. And I am fortunate in having expert electrical, electro-medical and engineering assistance and advice in this connection; while several B.S.D. members have already witnessed some of the main effects—to which they agree.

I feel that I can best continue to aid our subject and the Society in the following ways:—

1. By attacking these problems in a strictly orthodox and technical scientific spirit, and by contacting and demonstrating to various professional scientists, doctors and engineers.
2. By developing automatic physical instruments for the detection of the "dowsing" rays and fields of force, both indoors and out, as Mr. Franklin and I (helped by several others) have already done, in a preliminary sense, in the last ten years.
3. By technical and also popular lectures on the subject, and by papers and books whenever the opportunity offers; though the war has seriously curtailed this aspect of the work for five years, so that members have, unfortunately, been left rather in the dark as to the latest instruments and methods and general progress.

4. By undertaking and successfully carrying out various field surveys, laboratory analyses, &c., on a commercial basis (fees being accredited to the Laboratory Research account here).

The above policy has, it appears, paid good dividends since we published our book in 1939, and I therefore feel justified in maintaining it, despite the present lack of assistance and the fact that many of our members have, unavoidably, been insufficiently informed since the war of the detailed results. For a great deal has, in fact, been achieved, not only by way of propaganda, but also in terms of instrumental and methodological progress and actual field results in relation to water and mineral prospection and special war problems. But these developments are, necessarily, somewhat technical, and I realise that, sooner or later, much simplified popular accounts of all such work and methods will need to be published for the general reader and the amateur dowser. But that must always be the second step, not the first one, in any sort of scientific research work, especially in so wide and complex a subject as ours.

Meanwhile, I shall be very happy to demonstrate some of the main effects and methods, instruments, &c., to the Council or other B.S.D. members who can visit this Laboratory at any time—as has, indeed, already been done in many instances to the apparent satisfaction of visitors, whether of the lay or scientific variety. And some such meeting is, I believe, to be convened here later this year.

Again thanking the Council for its trust and co-operation,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

To Lieut.-Colonel H. M. Edwards, D.S.O., Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, B.S.D.

J. Cecil Maby

Vicuña Mackenna, F.C.P.,
Argentina.
16th July, 1945

Dear Sir,

My *Physics of the Divining Rod* having been lent and lost, I am unable to recall whether the authors are in agreement with Mager's interpretation of those secondary bands which are included in his " field of manifestation."

I raise the point because, in *Radio-Perception* for March, 1945, Mr. Underwood draws attention to bands which, apparently, are the same as those which build up Mager's composition zones ; if so, instead of H bands, I would prefer to name them after their discoverer. Mr. Underwood, however, does not show in his Fig. 3 an 4 that the number of these reaction lines increases as the stream bands are approached, as found by Mager. These are the " closer groupings " referred to by me on p. 328, Vol V, 42, and which I find to be equally existent over an underground

stream, as defined below, as they are over an underground sheet; in this I am in good company (see p. 219 *Water diviners and their methods*). Nor has he found that the bands are practically infinite in number, although he suspects this, and that the detection of a greater or lesser number depends not only on varied radiation intensity, but also on the dowser's pre-set tension and speed of movement; so that, by increasing the speed, &c., it is possible to cut out the secondary bands and leave the field more or less clear for the study of the parallels, &c.

Now, these bands do not seem to fit in well with the present hypotheses upon which modern dowsing is based; for that reason they are either conveniently ignored or attributed to lateral shift of the standing waves, &c. Nor, I suspect, will a concise interpretation be found for them so long as dowsers hang their stream, R and depth bands on to the idea that underground streams *always* flow within the neat box channels of dowsing literature. Let it be admitted that fault-fissures, joints, solution channels and the like, possessing vertical walls of constant spacing and strike, might conceivably exist in nature, but we have no right to suppose that they will be kept clear of debris for the convenience of dowsers. Rather would we expect to find, as a general rule, a small fissure-stream composed of interlascent trickles, which percolate at irregular and constantly changing level through what is tantamount to a gravel bed. Add to this picture a zone of lesser saturation as extending well into the country rock beyond the fissure walls (perhaps to a lesser degree in chalk), and we are brought into line with the same type of flow as that which seeps through unconsolidated sediments and the buried "valley gravels" mentioned by Major Pogson in Vol. IV, 30, p. 196.

I am inclined to define these types of "stream" as a lentiform (vertical cross section) bankless *zone* of intermittent saturation and dampness, which fades out to comparative dryness at the edge. In such instances, no well-defined pattern of banks, parallels, flow and depth bands can be nailed down on the ground surface, at the same spot and at all times of the day. On the contrary, and I repeat, even in the case of rock fissure-streams, we will be faced by a confusion of dowsing reactions, including a fictitious collateral spread in space of the R bands (Maby, Vol. VI, 45, p. 71), due to the large number of semi-independent trickles and their interspaced tiny areas of dampness. And this diffused pattern might be spread over a comparatively wide area. Hence the wide streams of the 8-feet variety (Belfield, Vol. V, 37, p. 113), although, naturally, their apparent width can afford no index of volume. Refer also to Maby, Vol. V, 39, p. 180, in regard to wide streams and W. E. Benham's C C' zones=my "closer groupings." So that, I suggest that one should view with suspicion all those precise depth figures, obtained by the

Bishop's, Probst and Creyke systems, that are founded on a sharp rise and fall of a rod, and especially if the depth zone has not been side-stepped. Incidentally, I read on p. 355, Vol. II, p. 16, of the Creyke point being used for depthing in boulder clay, which appears as if the inventor had not intended to restrict its use to rock fissure-streams. A similar instrument is used for depthing a stream in a " fine brown sand bed," p. 212, Vol V, 40.

Therefore, as the Mager bands have been so repeatedly reported, perhaps we amateurs are entitled to call upon the Investigation Committee for a definite opinion. They cannot be dismissed as of minor importance. Mr. Underwood's suggestion by Fig. 4, Vol. VI, 47, p. 146, is ingenious, but Mager's conception may be nearer the truth. Whereas, I have suggested, by Fig. 5, Vol. V, 43, p. 345, that the bands indicate volume, and have also quoted Major Pogson's " pressure lines " as a possible interpretation (Vol. V, 42, p. 328). Indeed, I suspect that this motorscope expert—does not the Oasis Rod and Rotogauge work on exactly the same principle ?—makes good use of these bands. But he may be hard to draw, I fear.

Yours faithfully,

D. O. KING

October 6th, 1945

Some Comments on " Dowsing Distorted "

Dear Sir,

It is a pity this article is cloaked in anonymity. If it is the opinion of the Officers of the British Society of Dowsers, or of the Research Committee, why not say so ? In its unsigned state it could provide a reason for scientific investigators to say that dowsers are afraid to subscribe their names to articles supporting their findings, contentions and arguments.

But to consider the points of the article. Why should scientific investigators trouble to investigate dowsing, when all they can say are the usual overworked statements and remarks ? What have they done to prove they are correct and to disprove dowsers ? The list printed in the article of the accomplishments of one dowser alone is indeed formidable. The requisite proof of this dowser's skill is there, in black and white, for the results are given. It is presumed that these results were obtained by true dowsing, but it seems that scientific investigators both cannot prove that dowsing is false, they cannot say what it is, and yet they say that no dowser has ever submitted willingly to tests. Of course, no man can display his skill in any art if he is in a " hostile " atmosphere. Why should he be asked to, under such an influence ? What would a scientific investigator say if he had to put up with similar goings-on in his laboratory ?

If men of science, of high academic qualifications, are in possession of out-of-date sources of information, and are in ignorance of recent results and progress, one must question their

ability to pass judgment. It happens to be the case that the public is impressed by the writings of such men, and forms its opinions accordingly. Not unnaturally will it therefore revert to its feelings of scepticism from which it might be advancing, when confronted in the popular scientific journals by such views. Is not the remedy in the hands of the Dowsers Society to publicise genuine authenticated instances of dowsing as widely as possible? The war will then be taken into the other camp, and a condition of things will be arrived at wherein the investigators will be obliged to get seriously to work and find out what dowsing is, and finally cease from throwing cold douches on dowsers and public alike.

Dowsers should refrain from publishing claims which might appear fantastic, and, in the words of Major Pogson, confine writings, and discussions with the sceptics, to the more usual theme of water divining.

If tests of dowsers are still required by scientific investigators, the dowsers taking part should bear in mind that they are not there to prove any theories of the scientists but that the scientists are trying to disprove the dowsers. In the case of water-finding investigations the tests are not complete until the water has been produced in the quantity and at the depth estimated, both within an agreed margin of error. If the investigators maintain there is no water at the spot where the dowser considers there is, or in other words do not believe the genuineness of the dowser's rod movements, they cannot be considered correct until a bore-hole has been put down and proof obtained. It is obvious that if a dowser can locate water he can also locate spots where it is absent.

The statement by a scientist that for a dowser to succeed the water must not lie too far from the surface is both vague and strange. Scientific men are more precise than that when dealing with figures. Geologists have to be. and dowsers very often are.

Perhaps the apparatus used by dowsers does not meet with the approval of the learned. The twig is not the means, it is only the ends, it is the indicator. Substitute the twig for a pointer on a dial and you will have all the men of science calling you brothers. Perhaps also they would like to have a hand in devising a dowsing apparatus, but lack the means of testing it. Maybe, but the diehards of the dowsing world would probably not use it. It may be too heavy, and if there are too many dials and knobs and small-headed screws, well, any of you who have handled a theodolite on a bitterly cold and windy day will know all about it. Putting all this aside, the co-operation of the scientific world would be welcomed, and an end put to this scepticism and disbelief.

Yours faithfully,

G. Austin Browne

The article in question was an editorial and represents the Editor's views.—Editor.

Château d'Arry,
par Rue, Somme.
16/9/45.

Cher Monsieur,

Je viens de lire avec le plus grand interêt votre numéro de septembre et je crois bon de prendre ma machine à écrire pour vous envoyer quelques réflexions au sujet de ce numéro. Par les tristes temps que nous traversens cela me rappelle la belle époque où j'avais un journal et où je pouvais écrire des articles sur la Radiesthésie.

Tout d'abord, toutes mes félicitations à Mr. Maby à propos de son Radio-Electromètre. Je pense que c'est une invention de tout premier ordre et qui est destinée à faire une forte impression dans le monde scientifique. Elle me semble destinée à avoir des répercussions considérables non seulement en ce qui concerne la Radiesthésie, mais aussi beaucoup d'autres sciences.

Cependant, je pense qu'en attendant que l'autorité du nouvel appareil soit établie et reconnue par le monde scientifique, ce qui demandera certainement du temps, il serait bon que Mr. Maby et ses amis continuent à multiplier les preuves de la Radiesthésie par le moyen des appareils et procédés classiques et indiscutés des laboratoires. Je crois même dans ce dernier ordre d'idées qu'il serait bon d'arriver à mettre sur pied une méthode pratique de preuve physique à l'usage de nes opérateurs et qu'ils utiliseraient quand ils vont travailler chez leurs clients. J'en connais un qui opère de la sorte, il emporte du sulfure de zinc, le laisse séjourner un certain temps au dessus de l'endroit qui lui parait bon, puis ensuite l'examine avec un microscope. Si le sel à cet endroit est radioactif on voit des scintillements dans le sulfure de zinc. D'autres photographient le sel avec un film et une feuille de plomb évidée. D'oustres déposent un bloc de charbon actif qui après un séjour est examiné avec un électroscope, etc. Tous ces procédés seraient à mettre au point et à faire connaitre.

Je vois aussi dans " Dowsing Distorted " que chez vous aussi la Radiesthésie est attaquée. Vos scientifiques voudraient eux aussi des expériences controlées par eux. Malheureusement nous n'avons pas d'opérateurs " entrainés à ce genre de sport," car cela en est un et qui demande des qualités teut à fait spéciales. J'ai entendu parler par MM. Mager et Viré, de Probst et de Falcoz qu'ils avaient connus et qui étaient réellement étonnants dans leurs expériences en tous genres, mais dans notre génération ils n'ont pas eu d'imitateurs en France. Serait il possible d'en trouver en Angleterre ?

La tactique de nos adversaires semble être aujourd'hui de rejeter tout notre art dans la Divination et la Clairvoyance. C'est ma une position fort commode pour eux et tout à fair ruineuse pour nous.

Nous ne pouvons nier qu'une grande partie de ce qui est présenté comme de la Radio-Perception est en réalité uniquement psychique et extra sensoriel, mais il nous faudrait trouver de bons arguments et de bons procédés pour sauver le reste. La question est délicate au point de vue . . . diplomatique, car une grande partie de nos adhérents trouvent bien plus amusant de faire de la Téléradiesthésie que de la Radiesthésie proprement dite. En France, peu avant la guerre, nous en étions arrivés aux polémiques entre les deux catégories de pendulistes et les choses commençaient à mal tourner lorsque la guerre a éclaté interrompant tout. Je crois que nous aboutirons à une séparation ou à une scission analogue à selle qui se produisit jadis entre les astrologues et les astronomes. Il y a là un point qu'il serait urgent d'étudier de très près afin de faire en sorte que cette séparation soit faite à l'amiable. Peut-être conviendrait il de diviser nos associations en sections ? ? ? Cela pourrait être une mesure préventive et qui atténuerait les heurts et les batailles qui se produirent forcément un jour ou l'autre entre partisans des deux points de vue. Il faut noter, en effet, qu'une grande partie des notres rejoignent nos adversaires en disant que, selon eux toute la Radiesthésie est extra sensorielle. Pendant longtemps ils ont parlé d "ondes radiesthésiques," mais comme cette position n'est pas tenable,ils sont bien forcés de se rabattre sur la Perception extra sensorielle, la Divination, etc.

Comment classer la question des œufs qui revient dans votre numéro ? C'est une très vieille question et je vois que Mrs. Bartlam en revient à la bague, c'est à dire à un procédé immémoriel et qui remonte au moins au XVII[e] siècle.

Toutefois, le problème est d'importance, car si sa solution était possible elle aurait de grosses répercussions. Je pense qu'il y aurait lieu de faire une enquête sur le sujet et de multiplier les expériences selon la méthode très simple qui est indiquée. J'ai l'impression qu'il s'agit d'une question de Divination et d'Intuition, mais encore faudrait-il en être certain. Je m'ai aucune raison de mettre en doute ce qui est affirmé par Mrs. B. mais encore faudrait il voir si son expérience peut être réussie par l'ensemble des sourciers ce qui me semble être la meilleure preuve pratique de la valeur d'utilisation d'un procédé.

Très intéressant aussi l'article de Mrs. Barraclough mais j'aimerais qu'il fut complété en indiquant avec plus de détails comment elle opère notamment pour obtenir ses chiffres relatifs aux vitamines.

Croyez, cher Monsieur, à l'assurance de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

HENRY DE FRANCE

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